A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The first request was considered in connexion with similar representations made to Government. The latter has been forwarded to the Chief Conservator of Forests for consideration.

Mr. A. B. Shetty:—"May I know whether the Government will place on the table of the House the report received from the Chief Conservator of Forests regarding the alleged abuse of the concessions?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—"My Friend, Mr. Bhatt, is asking me certain questions; and I propose to answer them to-morrow. The answer to this question is included in to-morrow's answer."

General

Circular of Government regarding the participation of Government servants as members of the Anti-untouchability leagues.

*47 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. Shetty: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any circular has been sent to Government servants stating that it is not desirable for them to become members of Anti-untouchability leagues; and

(*b*) if so, the reasons which have impelled the Government to send such a circular?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the Press Communiqué issued by the Government on the subject, of which a copy is appended.[a]

Mr. A. B. Shetty:—"May I ask whether Government will be pleased to place the circular on the table of the House for the information of the Members?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—"I do not think there is any necessity. The details are contained in the communiqué."

Mr. A. B. Shetty:—"May I ask whether there is anything confidential in that circular?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—"There is no point in it; I have given every information in the communiqué."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—"May I ask whether the agitation for the removal of untouchability and for temple entry constitutes an agitation for social rights, or an agitation for political rights?"

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on pages 137–138 infra.

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The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"It is a matter of opinion. My hon. Friend is entitled to have his own."

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"If my hon. Friend thinks there is nothing confidential in the circular, will he be pleased to place it on the Table of the House? It will remove a lot of doubts, I think."

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"I shall consider the suggestion."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"Does the Government suspect that this untouchability movement has got any political tinge in it?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"The Government consider that the movement and the counter-movement have aroused considerable feeling in the country and clashes may occur at any time between the opposing parties, necessitating the intervention of officers of the Government, in order to maintain peace."

Police

Action of the Government on the reports relating to Police excesses in South Kanara.

* 48 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) what action the Government have taken on the reports of the District Magistrate of South Kanara and the Inspector-General of Police, Madras, made after enquiry held by them into the cases of Police excesses and illegalities during the last Civil Disobedience Movement in South Kanara in general and Mangalore in particular;

(*b*) whether the hon. Member will be pleased to place a copy of the reports on the table of the House; if not, will the hon. Member at least state what the nature of the reports is; and

(*c*) what the cause of the delay in passing the order is?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The necessary disciplinary action has been taken against the Police officers whom the Government considered to have been at fault in dealing with manifestations of the Civil Disobedience Movement. The Government are not prepared to place copies of the reports on the table of the House, as they are confidential.

(*c*) The delay in taking departmental action against the officers concerned was due to the fact that some of the matters in respect of which enquiry had to be held were sub-judice for considerable periods.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I know what the nature of the disciplinary action taken by the Government is and against which of the officers?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"On a former occasion I answered the question in this House about what we have done as regards the subordinate staff. I said on 22nd